

**Town of Riverdale Park**  
**Work Session Minutes**  
**January 28, 2019**  
**8:00 p.m.**

**In Attendance**

Alan K. Thompson, Mayor  
CM Marsha Dixon, Ward 1  
CM Aaron Faulx, Ward 2  
CM David Lingua, Ward 3  
CM Colleen Richardson, Ward 5 (left at 9:41 p.m.)

John N. Lestitian, Town Manager  
Jessica Barnes, Town Clerk  
Paul Smith, Finance and Employee Services Director  
Gentry Jones, Finance Programs Specialist  
David Morris, Chief of Police

**Call to Order**

Mayor Thompson called the work session to order at 8:11 p.m.

**Mayor's Report**

Mayor Alan Thompson deferred his report to the February 4<sup>th</sup> Legislative Meeting.

**Public Comments**

There were no public comments.

**Presentations**

Update on Defined Benefit Plan: Bolton Partners and PNC

Michelle Brandenburg and Josh Kakel of PNC Bank presented the 2018 Investment Review for the Defined Benefit Plan.

Ann Sturner and Michael Spadaro of Bolton Partners presented the 2018 Actuarial Valuation Results for the Defined Benefit Plan.

*Discussion:*

CM Lingua asked about the impact of the of \$5 trillion tax cut and the Federal Reserve no longer buying back bonds.

Town Manager Lestitian discussed the budget impact associated with changes to the required contribution rate for the Defined Benefit Plan. Town Manager Lestitian stated that going from 14.7% to 18.1% would cost approximately an additional \$80,000 per year. He stated that changes to the Plan may be needed in order for it to be sustainable and affordable.

Budget: Projected Debt Service and Capital Improvement Budget Update

Finance Programs Specialist Gentry Jones discussed the projected debt service and provided an update on the Capital Improvement budget. Mr. Jones stated that after further review of existing debt, staff found that there would be no balloon payment due.

*Discussion:*

CM Lingua requested an update on the Town Center project and Town Manager Lestitian provided a status report.

**Town Manager's Report**

Town Manager John N. Lestitian reported:

- Thank you to the Department of Public Works staff team for a job well done after the recent weather event
- Financial Disclosure Statements have been distributed; the Ethics Commission accepted a recommendation to expand the list of staff required to complete Financial Disclosure Statements
- Pre-bid meeting was held on January 28<sup>th</sup> for lawn mowing and landscaping services

**Council Committee & Ward Reports**

**CM Marsha Dixon, Ward 1**

CM Marsha Dixon deferred her report to the February 4<sup>th</sup> Legislative Meeting.

**CM Aaron Faulx, Ward 2**

CM Aaron Faulx deferred his report to the February 4<sup>th</sup> Legislative Meeting.

**CM David Lingua, Ward 3**

CM David Lingua deferred his report to the February 4<sup>th</sup> Legislative Meeting.

**Discussion Items**

1. Request for Special Exception for a 6-foot cedar backyard fence at 4502 Tuckerman Street (Ward 1)

The applicants discussed their request for a 6-foot fence and stated that the fence would replace an existing fence that was falling down and improve the overall appearance of the property. The applicants also stated that they were planning to get a puppy.

CM Dixon asked if their neighbors were aware of the proposed fence and the applicants stated that the neighbors on both sides of their property were supportive.

CM Dixon requested that Legislative Action Item 1 be placed on the Consent Agenda for the February 4<sup>th</sup> Legislative Meeting. There were no objections.

2. Road closures for Mardi Gras Run to be held on March 2, 2019

Lydia Chandlee of Riverdale Park Station discussed their upcoming event, the Mardi Gras 5K. Ms. Chandlee stated that they had been working with Prince George's County and all preliminary permitting had been completed. Ms. Chandlee requested permission to close Sheridan Street on March 2<sup>nd</sup> as the run would begin and end in Riverdale Park Station. Ms. Chandlee outlined the proposed route.

CM Lingua stated that a closure of 51<sup>st</sup> Avenue would also be needed and Ms. Chandlee agreed.

CM Faulx asked how long the roads would be closed and Ms. Chandlee replied that she expected that they would be closed for approximately three hours. Ms. Chandlee explained that the roadways would be opened as runners completed each portion of the run.

It was requested that Legislative Action Item 2 be added to the February 4<sup>th</sup> Consent Agenda. There were no objections.

Bob Smith, of 5001 Riverdale Road, stated that he loved the idea of the event and that it would be important to get the word out to the community about the road closures.

### 3. Council Member Excused Absences from Regular Council Meetings

Mayor Thompson stated that CM Mayers had been unable to attend the last two Legislative Meetings for medical reasons. Mayor Thompson stated that it was expected that CM Mayers would be unable to attend the February 4<sup>th</sup> Legislative Meeting. Mayor Thompson suggested that a motion would be needed to formally excuse CM Mayers.

### 4. Town Manager Contract

Mayor Thompson gave an overview of the changes made to the Town Manager's contract since the Closed Meeting on January 15<sup>th</sup>. Mayor Thompson requested that the Council inform him of any requested changes as the contract would be placed on the February 4<sup>th</sup> Legislative Meeting agenda for Council action.

### 5. Amendment to the 2019 Mayor and Council calendar to include a date for the new administration's orientation

Staff reported that Town Attorney Fred Sussman would be available on May 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:15 p.m. for an orientation for the newly elected Mayor and Council.

CM Lingua requested that Legislative Action Item 5 be added to the February 4<sup>th</sup> Consent Agenda. There were no objections.

### 6. Chapter 42 Licenses – proposed amendments

Town Manager Lestitian gave an overview of the proposed revisions to Chapter 42 Licenses. Town Manager Lestitian stated that the existing ordinance and the proposed ordinance were both included in the meeting materials for Council's review. Town Manager Lestitian stated that there would be an opportunity for further discussion at the February 4<sup>th</sup> Legislative Meeting.

### 7. Election 2019

Mayor Thompson requested that the Council determine who they would like to appoint as Election Judges and members of the Board of Election Appeals for the upcoming election on May 6<sup>th</sup>.

## 8. Minutes

Mayor Thompson requested that the Council make staff aware of any changes or corrections needed to the minutes.

### **Unfinished Business**

There was no unfinished business.

### **New Business**

There was no new business.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:25 p.m.